

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: UNIDO AORG EAID US

SUBJECT: UNIDO - EVALUATION

REF: (A)STATE 161128; (B) STATE 152860

SUMMARY - SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED REFTELS DISCUSSED WITH AFIFI, SENIOR ADVISER TO EX. DIRECTOR. AFIFI'S REACTION GENERALLY NEGATIVE ALTHOUGH HE WILL DISCUSS MATTER WITH ABDEL-RAHMAN. END SUMMARY.

1. IN ABSENCE PAUL MCCUSKER WHO ON EXTENDED HOLIDAY AND IN VIEW OF FACT THAT MCCUSKER'S PLANNING, PROGRAMMING, EVALUATION UNIT IN ANY CASE IS SUBORDINATED TO AFIFI (NO ARRANGEMENT OF THE KIND SUGGESTED REFTELS COULD BE AGREED TO BY MCCUSKER WITHOUT AFIFI'S APPROVAL), POSSIBILITY OF STUDY OF EVALUATION PROCEDURES ALONG LINES REFTELS TO SERVE AS SPRINGBOARD FOR PC-V DISCUSSION EXPLORED AT LENGTH WITH AFIFI

2. WE MADE STRONG PITCH TO EFFECT SOME ACTION OF THIS KIND, DESIGNED TO FOCUS PC-V DISCUSSION, NECESSARY IF USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS TO BE HAD AND PROGRESS TO BE MADE IN MOVING UNIDO EVALUATION ACTIVITIES FORWARD ALONG MORE PRODUCTIVE LINES. IN THIS CONNECTION AFIFI SAID THAT SECRETARIAT ITSELF PLANNED

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TO PREPARE NOTHING ON EVALUATION ITEM FOR PC-V BEYOND ONE-PAGE

PAPER MERELY RECALLING THE OUTCOME OF DISCUSSION AT IDB-VII. WE MADE CLEAR THAT U.S. WOULD CARRY COST OF KITCHELL'S STUDY, THAT KITCHELL PREPARED SUBMIT STUDY PLAN TO SECRETARIAT FOR EXAMINATION AND THROUGH THEM TO INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS, AND THAT WE WERE FLEXIBLE ON APPROACH, EMPHASIZING AS PER REFTEL (A) THAT OUR BASIC CONCERN WAS TO ASSURE THAT SECRETARIAT HAD BENEFIT OF CLEAR THINKING BY AND BETTER GUIDELINES FROM MEMBER GOVERNMENTS ON FURTHER EVALUATION ACTIVITY.

3. AFIFI SAID ANY DECISION TO MOVE ALONG LINES SUGGESTED WOULD REQUIRE PRESONAL APPROVAL OF ABDEL-RAHMAN AND THAT HE WOULD BE GLAD TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH HIM. HIS OWN VIEW, HOWEVER, WAS THAT, GIVEN THE "SENSITIVE" NATURE OF THE SUBJECT, AS WITNESS THE DISCUSSION AT PC-IV/IDB-VII, THE SECRETARIAT WOULD NOT WISH TO PUT FORWARD ANY PAPER OF SUBSTANCE ON THE SUBJECT. MOREOVER, HE WOULD NOT BE IN FAVOR OF HAVING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CIRCULATE A STUDY ON EVALUATION PREPARED BY EXPERTS OR CONSULTANTS FROM ONE OR MORE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. (HE OBVIOUSLY CONVINCED THAT LDC'S WOULD NOT JOIN IN SUCH EXERCISE). HE ARGUED THAT IN ANY CASE SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAD SAID DURING LAST SPRING'S MEETINGS THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE THE LESSONS'S OF THEIR OWN EXPERIENCE WITH EVALUATION IN THE TA/FOREIGN AID FIELD, INCLUDING METHODOLOGY, AND HOPED THEY WOULD DO SO FOR PC-V DISCUSSION.

4. UPSHOT OF FURTHER DISCUSSION WAS COMMENT BY AFIFI THAT, IF U.S. DECIDED ASSIGN KITCHELL ON TDY TO UNIDO MISSION FOR PURPOSE OF MAKING CLOSE-UP STUDY OF UNIDO EVALUATION PROCEDURES, HE WOULD COOPERATE WITH HIM IN EVERY WAY AND PERSONALLY SEE TO IT THAT KITCHELL HAD FULL ACCESS TO UNIDO OFFICIALS AND MATERIALS. ANY CONCLUSIONS AND PROPOSALS THAT KITCHELL DEVELOPED COULD BE CIRCULATED TO PC-V OR LATER AS U.S. DELEGATION SUBMISSION, PERHAPS JOINED BY OTHERS.

5. COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW, LIKELIHOOD OF ABDEL-RAHMAN TAKING DIFFERENT VIEW FROM AFIFI NOT GREAT. AFIFI'S LINE IS TO AVOID HAVING THE SECRETARIAT STICK ITS NECK OUT ON THIS ONE AND TO LEAVE THE RUNNING TO THOSE BOARD MEMBERS, PRINCIPALLY THE U.S., WHICH PUSED FOR FURTHER ACTION ON EVALUATION FRONT AT IDB-VII AND MAY BE ANXIOUS TO MOVE AT PC-V. IN THIS CONNECTION AFIFI LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DROPPED INTERESTING COMMENT THAT MCCUSKER WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH MUCH ON EVALUATION IN NEAR FUTURE SINCE HIS MAN ON EVALUATION IS SUPPOSED TO BE DAGUERRE (VIENNA A-290). LATTER, HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO AFIFI IS FUMING BECAUSE HE OUTRANKS MCCUSKER AND FEELS HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN NAMED HEAD OF THE UNIT. AS A RESULT HE IS BEING COMPLETELY UNCOOPERATIVE. FURTHERMORE, AFIFI NOTED THAT ABDEL-RAHMEN HAS NOW ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL TASK FORCE AT DIVISION DIRECTOR/

DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEVEL TO BE CHAIRED BY AFIFI WHICH HAS
BEEN GIVEN SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARING NEXT MEDIUM-TERM
PLAN AND BIENNIAL PROGRAM/BUDGET. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY WHAT
FUNCTION THIS LEFT MCCUSKER UNIT, AFIFI SAID IT WOULD SERVE AS
"SECRETARIAT" TO THE TASK FORCE. WOULD APPRICIATE INDICATION
WHETHER KITCHELL STUDY UNDER ARRANGEMENTS OF KIND MENTIONED
PARA FOUR ABOVE WOULD BE OF INTEREST. IF SO, ASPECTS OF SUCH
EXERCISE WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION WITH
AFIFI/MCCUSKER. WE COULD, OF COURSE, SHARE WITH AND ATTEMPT
INTEREST OTHER DELEGATIONS IN THE RESULTS LOOKING TO POSSIBLE
JOINT INITIATIVES AT PC-V OR LATER. STIBRAVY

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